



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

May 10, 2016

To: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

REVIEW OF A TARGETED FEE WAIVER PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESS IN RELATION TO A COUNTYWIDE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ITEM NOS. 1-D AND 7, AGENDA OF OCTOBER 20, 2015)

On October 20, 2015, the Board adopted a motion by Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Solis (Motion) regarding a Countywide Economic and Community Development Program (Program). On January 25, 2016, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Executive Director of the Community Development Commission responded to the Motion with recommended actions in relation to the establishment of a County Economic Development Trust Fund to support the Program. In that report back, the CEO indicated that it would return to the Board within 90 days with an update on the definition of a small business, and the impact to the County of a possible fee waiver program. The fees that could potentially be included in such a waiver program relate to zoning, permitting, licensing, code enforcement, entitlement, and other programs. These fees are administered primarily in the County unincorporated areas by the Departments of Public Works, Regional Planning, Fire, and Public Health.

The evaluation of any fee waiver program for small business will be dependent on the creation of a countywide definition for local small businesses. In a January 12, 2016 motion by Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Solis, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) was authorized to secure a consultant to "assess the State's definition of a small business," and determine its applicability to the County. The CEO will evaluate the results of this assessment and incorporate any new definition into a cost analysis of a potential fee waiver program. The results of this analysis will then be reviewed by the DCBA as part of their Small Business Initiative to assist small businesses with the transition to a higher minimum wage.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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The fee waiver analysis will also be presented to the Economic Development Policy Committee that is being formed pursuant to a January 5, 2016 motion, by Supervisors Solis and Ridley-Thomas, to implement a Los Angeles County Strategic Plan for Economic Development.

If you have any questions, please contact David Howard, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, at (213) 893-2477, or dhoward@ceo.lacounty.gov; or Doug Baron, Interim Senior Manager, at (213) 974-8355, or dbaron@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:DPH
DSB:acn

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Community Development Commission
Consumer and Business Affairs
Fire
Public Health
Public Works
Regional Planning